

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management**

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**Environmental Assessment**

**Access Road and Pipelines for BBC's FD 14-21D-5-19 Well  
Location**

**DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2014-0106-EA**

**PREPARING OFFICE**

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Bureau of Land Management  
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**Environmental Assessment**  
**Access Road and Pipelines for BBC's FD**  
**14-21D-5-19 Well Location**  
**DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2014-0106-EA**

**Prepared by**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bureau of Land Management**  
**GREEN RIVER DISTRICT-VERNAL FIELD OFFICE**

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## Finding of No Significant Impact

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the attached environmental assessment, and considering the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, I have determined that Bill Barrett Corporation's buried pipeline and Uintah County's road As listed in EA No. DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2014-0106-EA, Chapter 2 – Proposed Action, will not have a significant effect on the human environment. An environmental impact statement is therefore not required.

## Signatures:

Approved by:



Jerry Kenczka  
AFM Lands and Minerals

JUN 26 2014

[Date]

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# Decision Record

## Selected Action

It is my decision to authorize Bill Barrett Corporation's request to construct a pipeline for the production of the FD 14-21D-5-19 oil and gas production well on fee surface (Glen J. Huber Family Living Trust) and fee minerals as part of the ongoing East Bluebell area development project and to authorize Uintah County's request to upgrade and maintain the Ouray Park Canal road with associated infrastructure including low water crossings and culverts as discussed in Alternative A-Proposed Action located in Chapter 2 of EA document DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2014-0106-EA with mitigation analyzed in the sub sections of Section 4.1 located in Chapter 4. This decision is subject to the implementation of the below compliance and monitoring and terms/conditions/stipulations.

## Authorities

The authority for this decision is contained in Section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (30 U.S.C. 185) and in Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of October 21, 1976, as amended through September 1999, (90 Stat. 2776; 43 U.S.C. 1761).

## Compliance and Monitoring

*Compliance and monitoring is included with the Terms / Conditions / Stipulations section of this Decision.*

## Terms / Conditions / Stipulations:

- The proposed surface disturbance and vehicular travel would be limited to existing access roads and ROW corridor.
- Adjacent well pads and the Uintah County road shall be utilized for staging allowing the disturbed width to be kept at the minimum necessary to construct the corridor.
- Full reclamation of the pipeline corridor shall follow construction leaving only the upgraded Uintah County road surface not reclaimed.
- Incidental disturbance to the corridor for maintenance activities would be reclaimed as soon as practical during the life of the corridor.
- Dust control measures shall be implemented as necessary.
- To reduce the likelihood of the introduction of noxious and invasive weed species via project-related vehicles and equipment into the area, the following measures would be implemented:
  - BBC and their contractors will power-wash all construction equipment and vehicles prior to the start of construction. Any vehicles traveling between the project location and outside areas would be power-washed on a weekly basis.

- Weed control will be conducted through an Approved Pesticide Use Plan from the BLM and would occur the first growing season after project completion.
- Trash containers and a portable toilet will be located on the construction site during construction. Upon completion of construction, the toilet and its contents would be transported to Vernal, Utah's municipal waste facility in accordance with applicable rules and regulations regarding sewage treatment and disposal.
- Accumulated trash and nonflammable waste materials would be hauled to the Duchesne and Uintah County landfills.
- All debris and waste materials not contained in the trash containers would be cleaned up, removed, and disposed of at the landfill.
- No potentially harmful materials or substances would be left in the area.
- Scrap metal and other recyclable refuse would be hauled to the BBC yard.
- Reclamation efforts for the proposed corridor would consist of re-seeding the area with a BLM approved seed mixture.
- Reclaimed areas receiving incidental disturbance during the life of the project would be re-contoured and reseeded as soon as practical.
- A reclamation plan for the existing road would be provided prior to reclamation activity initiation.
- A paleontological monitor shall spot check any bedrock disturbance during construction.
- Travel surface of the road shall not exceed 20 feet.
- The Ouray Park Canal road shall be gravelled to maintain integrity.
- Appropriate erosion and sedimentation control structures shall be incorporated into the road and pipeline corridor.

## **Plan Conformance and Consistency:**

The proposed action would be in conformance with the Vernal Field Office RMP/ROD (October 2008). The RMP/ROD decision allows Right-Of-Ways (ROW) on public lands in accordance with the Realty Decisions. It has been determined that the proposed action and alternative(s) would not conflict with any decisions throughout the plan.

The Project Area lands were leased for oil or gas development under authority of the MLA, as modified by the FLMPA, the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987, and the Energy Policy Act of 2005. A lessee/operator has the right to explore for oil and gas on its leases as specified in 43 CFR §3101.1-2, and if a discovery is made, to produce oil and/or natural gas for economic gain, so long as those operations are conducted in conformance with the lease terms and conditions. All exploration and production operations would be conducted in accordance with 43 CFR §3160. All ROW development would be conducted in compliance with 43 CFR §2800.

The State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) have leased much of the nearby State land for oil and gas production. There is no comprehensive State of Utah plan

for the vicinity of the Proposed Action. Because the objectives of SITLA are to produce funding for the State school system, and because production on Federal leases could further interest in drilling on state leases in the area, it is assumed that the alternatives analyzed, except the No Action Alternative, are consistent with the objectives of the State.

The proposed action is also consistent with the Uintah County General Plan (Uintah County 2011-as amended). The Uintah County General Plan contains specific policy statements addressing public land, multiple-use, resource use and development, access, and wildlife management. In general, the plan indicates support for development proposals through its emphasis on multiple-use public land management practices and responsible use and optimum utilization of public land resources. The County, through the Plan, supports the development of natural resources as they become available, as new technology allows.

In May 1997 the Utah BLM published *Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management for BLM Lands in Utah* (BLM 1997). These standards for rangeland health were developed to ensure that various services, activities, and all renewable resources of the land are environmentally sustainable, and that non-renewable resources are recovered in ways that ensure the long-term health of the land managed by the BLM. The Proposed Action and alternatives carried through in this assessment are consistent with these standards. These standards cover upland soils, riparian systems, natural ecosystems, and water quality.

#### **Issue Identification:**

Identification of issue(s) for this assessment was accomplished internally by considering any resources that could be affected by implementation of one of the alternatives.

#### **Alternatives Considered:**

*No Action Alternative.* Under the Alternative B, BBC and Uintah County's proposed project involving federal land would not be authorized. Federal access to the proposed well location on private land would be denied, thus BBC's original plan for the private well would not be realized. Uintah County could still obtain the ROW for the existing UCR Ouray Park Canal road alignment; however they would not be allowed to upgrade or improve any portion of the roads on federal land. As such, the No Action Alternative would not cause any new surface disturbance. Ongoing management of federal land within the project area would continue at current trends.

#### **Public Involvement:**

The proposed action was posted to the public Environmental Notification Bulletin Board with its assigned NEPA number on March 24, 2014. A public comment period was not offered due to the proposed action being similar in nature to other projects in the immediate area.

#### **Consultations:**

Utah State Historic Preservation Office

Consultation under the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 was conducted with the Utah State Historic Preservation Office. Concurrence on a No Historic Properties Affected determination was received on July 31, 2012 and September 13, 2012.

Native American Tribes

Consultation with the Native American Tribes that have cultural or historic ties to the Uinta Basin was conducted under the Greater Deadman Bench EIS in 2004. No Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) are identified within the APE.

#### Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources was consulted with for greater sage grouse. There are no current records that identify the greater sage grouse as utilizing the area. The nearest known lek is considered historic and is located 3 miles from the project area.

#### **Rationale for Decision:**

The Selected Alternative described in this document is in conformance with the Vernal Field Office Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (BLM 2008). The ROD allows for the issuance of rights-of-way. The Selected Alternative will not conflict with other decisions throughout the plan.

The proposed project is consistent with the *Uintah County General Plan, as amended 2011*, that encompasses the location of the proposed ROW's. In general, the plan indicates support for development proposals such as the Selected Alternative through the plan's emphasis of multiple-use public land management practices, responsible use, and optimum utilization.

Onsite visits were conducted by Vernal Field Office Personnel. The onsite inspection reports do not indicate that any other locations be proposed for analysis. In addition, all proposed mitigation has been carried forward into the Decision.

#### **Appeal or Protest Opportunities:**

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4 and the enclosed Form 1842-1. If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed in this office (at the above address) within 30 days from receipt of this decision. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

If you wish to file a petition (request) pursuant to regulation 43 CFR 2801.10 or 43 CFR 2881.10 for a stay (suspension) of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. Copies of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must also be submitted to each party named in this decision and to the Interior Board of Land Appeals and to the appropriate Office of the Solicitor (see 43 CFR 4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

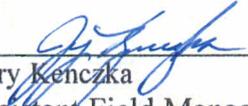
#### **Standards for Obtaining a Stay**

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulation, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,

- (2) The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
- (3) The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

**Authorizing Official:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Kenczka  
Assistant Field Manager, Lands and Minerals

JUN 26 2014  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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# **Chapter 1. Introduction**

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## **1.1. Identifying Information:**

### **1.1.1. Title, EA number, and type of project:**

Access Road and Pipelines for BBC's FD 14-21D-5-19 Well Location  
DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2014-0106-EA

### **1.1.2. Location of Proposed Action:**

Salt Lake Meridian,  
T. 5 S., R. 19 E.,  
sec. 28, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
sec. 33, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

### **1.1.3. Name and Location of Preparing Office:**

Lead Office - U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Vernal Field Office  
and number LLUTG01110

170 South 500 East

Vernal, Utah 84078

Phone: (435) 781-4400

Fax: (435) 781-3420

### **1.1.4. Identify the subject function code, lease, serial, or case file number:**

2800 and 2880

Case file numbers: UTU-90049, UTU-90050, and UTU-69125-95

### **1.1.5. Applicant Names:**

Bill Barrett Corporation

1099 18th Street, Suite 2300

Denver, Colorado 80202

and

Uintah County Commission

152 East 100 North

Vernal, Utah 84078

## **1.2. Purpose and Need for Action:**

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) need is to consider approval of the application. BLM's purpose is to avoid or reduce impacts on sensitive resource values associated with the project area and prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of the public lands.

Uintah County's need is to make improvements to the Uintah County Class "D" Ouray Park Canal road #1511 to provide access to a proposed well site on private lands and for public travel, recreation and commerce.

Bill Barrett Corporation's (BBC) need is to construct an access road and install gathering lines to the private lands where they propose to drill the FD 14-21D-5-19.

## **1.3. Conformance with BLM Land Use Plans:**

This EA was prepared by the BLM in accordance with NEPA of 1969 and in compliance with all applicable regulations and laws passed subsequently, including the President's Council on Environmental Quality regulations, U.S. Department of Interior requirements and guidelines listed in the BLM NEPA Handbook H-1790-1. This EA assesses the environmental effects of Alternative A-Proposed Action and Alternative B-No Action.

The proposed action would be in conformance with the Vernal Field Office RMP/ROD (October 2008). The RMP/ROD decision allows Right-Of-Ways (ROW) on public lands in accordance with the Realty Decisions. It has been determined that the proposed action and alternative(s) would not conflict with any decisions throughout the plan.

The Project Area lands were leased for oil or gas development under authority of the MLA, as modified by the FLMPA, the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987, and the Energy Policy Act of 2005. A lessee/operator has the right to explore for oil and gas on its leases as specified in 43 CFR §3101.1-2, and if a discovery is made, to produce oil and/or natural gas for economic gain, so long as those operations are conducted in conformance with the lease terms and conditions. All exploration and production operations would be conducted in accordance with 43 CFR §3160. All ROW development would be conducted in compliance with 43 CFR §2800.

The State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) have leased much of the nearby State land for oil and gas production. There is no comprehensive State of Utah plan for the vicinity of the Proposed Action. Because the objectives of SITLA are to produce funding for the State school system, and because production on Federal leases could further interest in

drilling on state leases in the area, it is assumed that the alternatives analyzed, except the No Action Alternative, are consistent with the objectives of the State.

The proposed action is also consistent with the Uintah County General Plan (Uintah County 2011-as amended). The Uintah County General Plan contains specific policy statements addressing public land, multiple-use, resource use and development, access, and wildlife management. In general, the plan indicates support for development proposals through its emphasis on multiple-use public land management practices and responsible use and optimum utilization of public land resources. The County, through the Plan, supports the development of natural resources as they become available, as new technology allows.

In May 1997 the Utah BLM published *Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Grazing Management for BLM Lands in Utah* (BLM 1997). These standards for rangeland health were developed to ensure that various services, activities, and all renewable resources of the land are environmentally sustainable, and that non-renewable resources are recovered in ways that ensure the long-term health of the land managed by the BLM. The Proposed Action and alternatives carried through in this assessment are consistent with these standards. These standards cover upland soils, riparian systems, natural ecosystems, and water quality.

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## **Chapter 2. Proposed Action and Alternatives**

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## 2.1. Alternative A — Proposed Action:

### Introduction

Bill Barrett Corporation (BBC) proposes to construct, drill and produce the FD 14-21D-5-19 oil and gas production well on fee surface (Glen J. Huber Family Living Trust) and fee minerals as part of the ongoing East Bluebell area development project. The well would be serviced by buried pipeline facilities that would traverse private, state and federal surface managed by the Bureau of Land Management – Vernal Field Office (BLM) to tie into an existing BBC-maintained pipeline corridor.

Federal surface use across BLM managed surface is being applied for at this time through the ROW process. The requested permanent pipeline ROW width would be 30 feet with an additional temporary 20-foot ROW width needed for construction. The permanent pipeline corridor would parallel the proposed Uintah County road. The Uintah County road would be utilized for the temporary construction width to the extent possible to minimize overall surface disturbance along the proposed pipeline corridor. Disturbance and ROW corridor description is located in Table 1 below.

Table 1 – POD Summary

Surface Owner	Approximate ROW Corridor (feet/acres)		ROW Corridor Location
Private	2,433.20	1.676	SESW, Sec. 21 & W2NE, W2SE, Sec. 28, T5S-R19E
State	3,926.77	2.704	SWSE, Sec. 21 & E2NW, Sec. 28, T5S-R19E
Federal	3,137.20	2.160	SESE, Sec. 28, T5S-R19E N2NE, Sec. 33, T5S-R19E
Total			

### Road Construction

Uintah County in cooperation with BBC propose to upgrade and utilize the existing federal segment of the Uintah County Class “D” Ouray Park Canal road with associated infrastructure. The access road corridor proposal would consist of full upgrade (road widening, crowning and ditching) of the proposed federal segment along a route previously cleared for cultural, paleontological and biological resources. The upgrade would accommodate a 20-foot wide travel surface within a 40-foot wide road ROW crossing approximately 3,140 feet (0.60 miles) of federal surface managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as shown on the attached map (APPENDIX A).

Proposed upgrade and utilization of the Ouray Park Canal road segment would cross 3,140 feet (0.60 miles) of federal surface within T5S-R19E, section 28, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$  & section 33, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$  continuing onto private surface to the north and south of the segment. Appropriate low-water crossings and culverts are anticipated as the proposed road corridor crosses minor drainages in the area. The entire travel surface would be graveled to maintain integrity and gravel would be obtained from SITLA materials permits or from private sources and not from federal lands. No gates cattle guards are anticipated at this time. The upgrades have been proposed to make the best use of existing disturbance and utilize existing roads in their entirety. The road installation

would involve a total initial federal surface disturbance of approximately 1.44 acres (20-ft width) within a 2.88 acre permanent authorization across federal lands.

The proposed surface disturbance and vehicular travel would be limited to existing access roads and ROW corridor

### **Pipeline Construction**

The pipeline corridor would include the installation of a 6-inch steel natural gas gathering pipeline, installation of a 4-inch flex-pipe produced water pipeline, and installation of a 4-inch flex-pipe operational gas pipeline. All three lines would be buried in the same trench at the time of installation. The proposal includes any necessary associated infrastructure (valves, meters, pigging facilities, etc.) required for the operation of the pipeline.

The pipeline would serve to transport natural gas, produced water and operational gas to and from the proposed FD 14-21D-5-19 production well and any future pads that may be drilled in the immediate area. Produced natural gas would be transported south of Highway 40 to existing BBC operated compression and gas treating facilities before being transported by Aurora Gas Gathering, LLC and Questar to regional markets. Produced water would also be transported south of Highway 40 to existing BBC operated central tank batteries and disposal wells. Operational gas would comprise treated dry natural gas the flows from existing compression and treating facilities south of Highway 40 north for use at the individual well sites.

Adjacent well pads and the Uintah County road would be utilized for staging allowing the disturbed width to be kept at the minimum necessary to construct the corridor. The corridor would be buried unless conditions encountered during excavation required that the pipeline be surface laid. All project activities in the area would follow procedures specified by the BLM as well as other applicable BMP's and guidelines, including ASME B31.8 "Gas Transmission and Distribution Piping Systems", latest edition and API 1104, "Welding of Pipelines and Related Facilities", latest edition.

Full reclamation of the pipeline corridor would follow construction leaving only the upgraded Uintah County road surface not reclaimed. Reclamation would be completed as soon as practical following construction and installation activities. Incidental disturbance to the corridor for maintenance activities would be reclaimed as soon as practical during the life of the corridor.

### **Additional Components of the ROW**

Alternate corridor routes were considered and deemed unsatisfactory given that the route is the shortest distance between the proposed pad and existing infrastructure. Activity proposed in the immediate area of the project is routine inspection and maintenance of the corridor and associated well and the ongoing oil and gas activities of BBC and other operators with interests in the area. The anticipated life of the project corresponds to the life of the producing wells the corridor would service and is anticipated to be approximately 20 to 30 years.

Installation activities associated with the proposed corridor is anticipated to take approximately one month to complete and would include blading and grading of the proposed 50 foot wide ROW. The corridor has been proposed to make the best use of existing disturbance and parallel existing roads where practical. No existing facility upgrade or removal is proposed with this application.

Associated infrastructure for the pipelines would include valves, pigging and metering facilities that would be installed, as needed, along the federal segment within the approved 30-foot

rights-of-way width. New staging areas are not required on federal surface with any necessary staging being contained to existing well pads in the area on private surface. Surface disturbance and vehicular travel would be limited to existing access roads. Members of the project workforce would commute from surrounding towns and cities.

Equipment needed to construct the corridor would include dozer, rock saw, motor grader, track excavators, transport trucks, backhoes, sidebooms, water trucks and pick-up trucks. Vehicle traffic during the construction phase would include the transportation of materials and heavy equipment, the commuting of the workforce, and the daily operation of the construction equipment.

### **Government Agencies Involved**

The proposed ROWs are located on federal under the management of the BLM and private landowners. Surface use with the private landowners is being completed at this time. The proposed corridor would connect to numerous pending existing lease rights federal authorizations for the access road corridor to oil and gas wells proposed by Bill Barrett Corporation. Applicant Bill Barrett Corporation will secure a road agreement with Uintah County.

### **Additional Details**

1. Appropriate erosion and sedimentation control structures would be incorporated into the corridor.
2. Dust control measures would be implemented as necessary.
3. Noxious and Invasive Weeds: To reduce the likelihood of the introduction of noxious and invasive weed species via project-related vehicles and equipment into the area, the following measures would be implemented:
  - a. BBC and their contractors would power-wash all construction equipment and vehicles prior to the start of construction. Any vehicles traveling between the project location and outside areas would be power-washed on a weekly basis.
  - b. Weed control would be conducted through an Approved Pesticide Use Plan from the BLM and would occur the first growing season after project completion.
4. Trash containers and a portable toilet would be located on the construction site during construction. Upon completion of construction, the toilet and its contents would be transported to Vernal, Utah's municipal sewage facility in accordance with applicable rules and regulations regarding sewage treatment and disposal. Accumulated trash and nonflammable waste materials would be hauled to the Duchesne and Uintah County landfills. All debris and waste materials not contained in the trash containers would be cleaned up, removed, and disposed of at the landfill. No potentially harmful materials or substances would be left in the area. Scrap metal and other recyclable refuse would be hauled to the BBC yard. Vehicle traffic during the construction phase would include the transportation of materials and heavy equipment, the commuting of the workforce, and the daily operation of the construction equipment.
5. Stabilization, Rehabilitation and Reclamation: Reclamation efforts for the proposed corridor would consist of re-seeding the area with a BLM approved seed mixture. Reclaimed areas receiving incidental disturbance during the life of the project would be

re-contoured and reseeded as soon as practical. A reclamation plan for the existing road would be provided prior to reclamation activity initiation.

### **Reclamation**

Following BLM published Best Management Practices the interim reclamation would be completed within 90 days of completion of the pipeline corridor, weather permitting, as required by the Green River District Reclamation Guidelines and the submitted BBC General Reclamation Plan. All equipment and debris would be removed from the reclamation areas. The areas would be re-contoured where necessary. Disturbed areas would be re-contoured to blend with the surrounding area and reseeded as prescribed by the BLM. Reclaimed areas receiving incidental disturbance during the life of the project would be re-contoured and reseeded as soon as practical. Final reclamation efforts would be approved by the BLM prior to implementation and meet current guidelines and plans at the time of reclamation.

Incidental disturbance resulting from road upgrade will be completed according to BLM specifications. No Reclamation to the roads is necessary since they are part of Uintah County's Transportation System Map.

### **Operations and Maintenance**

BBC would be responsible for all maintenance activities associated with the corridor. All maintenance activities would be confined to the existing disturbed width/requested ROW.

## **2.2. Alternative B — No Action:**

Under the Alternative B, BBC and Uintah County's proposed project involving federal land would not be authorized. Federal access to the proposed well location on private land would be denied, thus BBC's original plan for the private well would not be realized. Uintah County could still obtain the ROW for the existing UCR Ouray Park Canal road alignment; however they would not be allowed to upgrade or improve any portion of the roads on federal land. As such, the No Action Alternative would not cause any new surface disturbance. Ongoing management of federal land within the project area would continue at current trends.

## **Chapter 3. Affected Environment:**

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The Interdisciplinary Team Checklist provides a brief description of the affected environment. The affected environment and environmental consequences of the alternatives were considered and analyzed by an interdisciplinary team as documented in Appendix B. The analysis indicates that resources of concern are either not present in the project area, or would not be impacted to a degree that requires detailed analysis. The analysis and rationale for this conclusion is provided in Appendix B. The below information describes the current state of the potentially affected resources in the project area.

### **3.1. Alternative A — Proposed Action:**

#### **3.1.1. Invasive Plants/Noxious Weeds, Soils and Vegetation**

The soils in the Project Area are typically mixed with a high content of loams and sandy loams. According to NRCS soil survey data (2014, WSS query) the dominant soils in the area are considered Begay sandy loam (19), Begay-Hideout-Rock Outcrop complex (20), Hideout-Badland-Rock Outcrop complex (102), Clapper-Montwel complex (52), and Shotnick-Walkup complex (209). These soils are rated as land capability subclass 7e, 7s, 8e or 8s if non-irrigated. Soils with a capability class of 7 are generally not suited to the mechanized production of commonly grown field crops without special management. Soils with a capability class of 8 are not suitable for crops, pasture, or forest land without a level of management that is impractical. A subclass designation “e” indicates that the main hazard is erosion, unless a close-growing plant cover is maintained. A subclass designation “s” indicates that the soils are limited mainly because they are salty, shallow, droughty, or stony.

Begay sandy loam is well drained, nearly level to moderately sloping (2 to 15% slopes) soils found on fan remnants at elevations from 5,200 to 6,000 feet. The parent materials are eolian deposits over alluvium derived from sandstone. Surface layer is moderately alkaline sandy loam 0 to 4 inches thick; upper subsoil, where present, is moderately alkaline sandy loam up to 8 inches thick. The permeability is moderately rapid, runoff is low and erosion hazard is moderate. The land capability subclass is 7e if nonirrigated. The ecological site classification is semidesert sandy loam (fourwing saltbush).

Begay-Hideout-Rock Outcrop complex is composed of well drained, nearly level to moderately sloping (2 to 15% slopes) soils found on fan remnants, structural benches, cliffs, ledges, escarpments and erosion remnants at elevations from 5,100 to 5,500 feet. The parent materials are eolian deposits over alluvium derived from sandstone, and eolian deposits and slope alluvium derived from sandstone. Surface layer is moderately alkaline sandy loam 0 to 4 inches thick; upper subsoil, where present, is moderately alkaline sandy loam up to 8 inches thick. The permeability is moderately rapid, runoff is low to very high, and erosion hazard is moderate. The land capability subclass is 7e or 7s if nonirrigated. The ecological site classification is semidesert sandy loam (four-wing saltbush) or semi-desert shallow loam (black sagebrush).

Hideout-Badland-Rock Outcrop complex is composed of well to somewhat excessively drained, nearly level to moderately sloping (2 to 8% slopes) soils found on structural benches, hills, erosion remnants, ridges, cliffs, ledges and escarpments at elevations from 5,100 to 5,800 feet. The parent materials are eolian deposits and slope alluvium derived from sandstone. Surface layer is sandy loam 0 to 2 inches thick; upper subsoil, where present, is fine sandy loam or sandy loam up to 8 inches thick. The permeability is very slow to moderately rapid, runoff is very high and

erosion is active. The land capability subclass is 7s, 8s or 8e if nonirrigated. The ecological site classification is semi-desert shallow loam (black sagebrush).

Clapper-Montwel complex is composed of well drained, nearly level to steeply sloping (2 to 50% slopes) soils found on fan remnants and hills at elevations from 5,000 to 6,400 feet. The parent materials are slope alluvium derived from sandstone, limestone, shale and quartzite, or slope alluvium and colluvium over residuum derived from shale, siltstone, and sandstone. Surface layer is gravelly loam or very cobbly clay loam 0 to 7 inches thick; upper subsoil, where present, is gravelly loam or clay loam up to 31 inches thick. The permeability is moderately slow to moderate, runoff is low to very high and erosion is moderately active. The land capability subclass is 7e if nonirrigated. The ecological site classification is semi-desert gravelly loam (Wyoming big sagebrush) or desert shallow loam (shadscale).

Shotnick-Walkup complex is composed of moderately well drained to well drained, nearly level (0 to 2% slopes) soils found on alluvial flats at elevations from 4,700 to 5,500 feet. The parent materials are eolian deposits and alluvium derived from sandstone, limestone and shale, or alluvium derived from sandstone, shale and quartzite. Surface layer is sandy loam or fine sandy loam 0 to 8 inches thick; upper subsoil, where present, is sandy loam or fine sandy loam up to 52 inches thick. The permeability is moderately rapid, runoff is very low and erosion is moderately active. The land capability subclass is 7s if nonirrigated. The ecological site classification is desert sandy loam (Indian ricegrass).

The Project Area is located primarily in mixed desert shrub, black sagebrush, and Wyoming big sagebrush vegetative communities. Dominant species that occur in the Project Area include Indian ricegrass (*Achnatherum hymenoides*), black sagebrush (*Artemisia nova*), Wyoming big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata ssp. wyomingensis*), milkvetch sp. (*Astragalus sp.*), fourwing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens*), shadscale (*Atriplex confertifolia*), blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*), Torrey's jointfir (*Ephedra torreyana*), Mormon tea (*Ephedra viridis*), slender buckwheat (*Erigonum microthecum*), needleandthread (*Hesperostipa comata*), winterfat (*Krascheninnikovia lanata*), budsage (*Picrothamnus desertorum*), galleta grass (*Pleuraphis jamesii*), scarlet globemallow (*Sphaeralcea coccinea*), and sand dropseed (*Sporobolus cryptandrus*).

### 3.1.2. Paleontology

A paleontological survey was conducted for the FD 14–21D-5–19 well site and corridor (access road and pipeline) where construction is proposed. No fossils were found at the surface. However, because there will be substantial impact to bedrock during the construction, it is recommended that a paleontological monitor spot check any bedrock disturbance during construction.

### 3.1.3. Plants: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate

#### Ute ladies-tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*)

Ute ladies-tresses is a perennial herb and a member of the orchid family. It is federally listed as threatened. It consists of an above-ground rosette of thickened grass-like leaves. From mid-July through August, it produces solitary flowering stems, terminating in a spike of 3 to 15 white to ivory flowers.

Ute ladies-tresses usually inhabits gravelly sand or sandy loam soils within wet meadows, stream or lake margins, abandoned stream meanders, riparian sandbars, and sub-irrigated springs and

seeps, between 4,400 and 7,110 feet in elevation. In general, the species is intolerant of shade, preferring open, grass, sedge, and forb-dominated sites.

Approximately 300 meters of the entire proposed project crosses potential Ute ladies'-tresses habitat. The project was surveyed August 15, 2013, during which no Ute ladies'-tresses were found.

### **3.1.4. Wildlife: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or Candidate**

Greater sage-grouse are listed as a federal candidate species. These birds inhabit sagebrush foothills, plains, and mountain slopes where sagebrush is dominant (Nature Serve 2014). Sage-grouse require large expanses of sagebrush with good under stories of forbs and grasses for nutrition and shelter. Factors involved in the decline in both the distribution and abundance of sage-grouse include permanent loss, degradation, and fragmentation of sagebrush-steppe habitat throughout the western states including Utah (Heath et al. 1996, Braun 1998). Sage-grouse populations have declined (approximately 80%) from the mid-1960's to mid-1980's throughout much of the western states. Research and conservation efforts throughout the last twenty years have helped stabilize and recover many populations (UDWR 2014a).

In January of 2005, the USFWS completed a status review for greater sage-grouse and other numerous petitions. The status review was published "not warranted." In December 2007 the court remanded the decision on the combined greater sage-grouse petitions and required a new status review to be published by December 2008. The USFWS failed to publish the new status review and agreed with petitioners to publish the review by February 26, 2010. The USFWS announced that listing of the greater sage-grouse warrants the protection of the ESA, but that listing the species is precluded by the need to address higher priority species first. (73 FR 10218)

It is estimated that the proposed project would disturb approximately 2.16 acres of Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH).

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## **Chapter 4. Environmental Effects:**

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This chapter describes the direct and indirect impacts that would be expected to occur upon the implementation of each of the considered alternatives. It also discloses the expected cumulative impacts, which are those impacts resulting from the incremental impact of an action when added to other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions.

## **4.1. Alternative A — Proposed Action:**

### **4.1.1. Invasive Plants/Noxious Weeds, Soils and Vegetation**

The Proposed Action would disturb approximately 2.2 acres of soils and vegetation. Of this total, approximately 0.9 acre would be subject to interim reclamation. If interim reclamation is successful, direct long-term impacts to vegetation would occur on 1.3 acres. If interim reclamation is not successful, up to the entire 2.2 acres could remain disturbed for the long term. Long-term impacts to vegetation are expected for the life of the project, or until reclamation is successful.

The project would contribute an estimated additional 3.0 tons of soil per acre per year above the current natural erosion rate for the first year of development. After the first year, the soil erosion attributed to the project would reduce to 1.5 tons per acre per year until the access road and pipeline are fully reclaimed. Erosion rates are higher during the first year due to disturbance during construction.

Direct impacts to soils include mixing of soil horizons, soil compaction, short-term loss of topsoil and site productivity, and loss of soil/topsoil through wind and water erosion. Loss of soil/topsoil in disturbed areas would reduce the revegetation success of seeded native species due to increased competition by annual weed species. Annual weed species are adapted to disturbed conditions, and have less stringent moisture and soil nutrient requirements than do perennial native species.

Impacts to soils would be partially mitigated by reclamation of disturbed areas with desired native vegetation and the control of noxious and invasive weeds by mechanical and chemical treatment. Under the Proposed Action, reclamation would occur on approximately 25 percent of the access road and pipeline corridor. The remaining 75 percent of the disturbance would be revegetated after abandonment of the project (approximately 25 years).

### **4.1.2. Paleontology**

No fossils were found at the surface, but because the pipeline will be buried, bedrock could be impacted by construction. The mitigation is to have a paleontologist conduct spot checks during construction to protect fossils resources in the bedrock.

### **4.1.3. Plants: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate**

As there are no individuals within the proposed surface disturbance area, no direct physical damage will occur to Ute ladies'-tresses as a result of the proposed action. Possible dispersed direct and indirect negative impacts which may result from implementation of the proposed action include loss of suitable habitat, loss of habitat and forage opportunities for pollinators of the species, habitat modification by invasive weed species which may compete with individuals, accidental spray or drift of herbicides used during invasive plant control, and the deposition of

fugitive dust from construction activities and vehicle traffic on unpaved roads. Due to these indirect negative impacts, the proposed action “may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect” Ute ladies’-tresses. Informal Section 7 consultation with the USFWS will be completed prior to project approval.

#### **4.1.4. Wildlife: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or Candidate**

As stated in Chapter 3, greater sage-grouse are listed as a federal candidate species because of widespread losses of sagebrush habitat. It is anticipated that 2.16 acres would be disturbed with the proposed project. The surrounding area is highly disturbed with existing oil and gas infrastructure (i.e. roads, pipelines, well locations, etc.). The nearest known lek is considered historic and is located 3 miles northeast of the project area. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) has not identified grouse utilizing the area for some time (UDWR 2014b).

### **4.2. Alternative B — No Action:**

#### **4.2.1. Invasive Plants/Noxious Weeds, Soils and Vegetation**

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no direct disturbance or indirect effects to soils from surface-disturbing activities associated with this project. Current land use trends in the area would continue, including increased industrial development, increased off-highway vehicles (OHV) traffic, and increased recreation use for hunting, bird watching, and sightseeing.

#### **4.2.2. Paleontology**

For the no action alternative, no mitigation is needed since everything would remain as it currently is.

#### **4.2.3. Plants: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate**

Under the No Action Alternative, impacts to Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate plant species are not anticipated to occur.

#### **4.2.4. Wildlife: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or Candidate**

Under the No Action Alternative impacts to sage-grouse are not anticipated to occur. However, not allowing access routes and pipelines to be constructed could reduce the efficiency of oil and gas production in the general project area and may be at odds with the 2008 Vernal Field Office Resource Management Plan.

*Chapter 4 Environmental Effects:  
Wildlife: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or  
Candidate*

### **4.3. Cumulative Impacts:**

#### **4.3.1. Alternative A — Proposed Action**

##### **4.3.1.1. Invasive Plants/Noxious Weeds, Soils and Vegetation**

Analysis of the cumulative impacts is incorporated by reference to the existing document Vernal Field Office Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision. For the purpose of cumulative impact analysis, the cumulative impacts analysis area (CIAA) considered is the boundary of the Township 5 South, Range 19 East (T5S R19E). Cumulative impacts typical of oil and gas field development include: removal of native vegetation and increased erosion rates of soils which are generally very thin, slow to develop, and difficult to reclaim due to the arid climate and the low organic content.

The CIAA considered for this analysis is the boundary of the T5S, R19E. Cumulative actions within the T5S, R19E area include a number of plugged and active wells primarily on BLM surface. BLM acreage within this area is approximately 6864.54 acres of the total 13,580.84 acres in the township and range. There are currently several existing and proposed wells and associated infrastructure (including access roads and pipelines) in this township and range, including the infrastructure in the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action would disturb approximately 2.2 acres, approximately 0.016% of the CIAA (T5S R19E), or approximately 0.032 % of the total BLM acreage in the CIAA. The No Action Alternative would not contribute to cumulative impacts on soils and vegetation.

Soil erosion would be increased due to the disturbance associated with oil and gas activities in the area. Each acre of disturbance adds to a cumulative effect by increasing erosion and destroying native vegetation, and through the invasion of undesirable and/or non-native plant species. In general, soils in the Uinta Basin are very thin, slow to develop, and difficult to reclaim because of the arid climate and lack of organic material.

Direct surface disturbances to vegetation indicated by past, present, and reasonably foreseeable developments are primarily attributable to oil and gas development and vegetation management by various federal agencies. Oil and gas development, however, would continue to degrade local habitat by direct disturbance and slow reclamation of disturbed areas. The Proposed Action would add 2.2 acres of surface disturbance. The No Action alternative would not result in an accumulation of impacts.

##### **4.3.1.2. Paleontology**

This project area is considered the CIAA. This area has a history of oil and gas wells and road and pipeline development. Roads, power lines, and pipelines associated with the oil industry already cross this area. Historically, fossil resources have been protected during oil field development by conducting paleo surveys and applying the required mitigation measures. However, cumulative impacts include potential destruction and theft of fossils resulting from increased human access to the area and surface disturbing activities. The proposed well location, pipeline, and access road were surveyed for paleontology resources. Outcrops and erosional surfaces were checked within the proposed construction areas to determine if fossils were present and to assess needs when found. The probability for impacting scientifically important paleontological resources during

construction was determined to be moderate. Spot checking the construction in the area where bedrock encountered will help to mitigate adverse impacts to paleo resources from this project.

#### **4.3.1.3. Plants: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate**

#### **4.3.1.4. Wildlife: Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or Candidate**

The CIAA for greater sage-grouse is approximately 86,991 acres of sage-grouse winter habitat (all within the PPH areas). This portion of the winter range is specific to the South Slope sage-grouse populations. The project would contribute to the temporary loss of 2.16 acres of sage-grouse winter range following project activities; however, there are no records of sage-grouse utilizing the surrounding areas. The surrounding area is highly fragmented with oil and gas infrastructure (i.e. roads, pipelines, and well locations) and the addition of surface pipeline would further increase fragmentation throughout the sage-grouse range. The proposed project is located on the outer fringe of BLM's identified habitat and outside the main concentration areas.

**Chapter 5. Tribes, Individuals,  
Organizations, or Agencies Consulted:**

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The proposed action was posted to the ePlanning NEPA Register with its assigned NEPA number on March 24, 2014. To date, no questions or comments have been received.

There are no other ROW holders adjacent to the proposed project area; therefore, notice letters were not sent.

A public comment period was not offered due to the proposed action being similar in nature to other projects in the immediate area.

**Table 5.1. List of Persons, Agencies and Organizations Consulted**

Name	Purpose & Authorities for Consultation or Coordination	Findings & Conclusions
Brian Maxfield	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	There are no current records that identify greater sage-grouse utilizing the area. Nearest known lek is considered 'historic'.
Lori Hunsaker, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Archaeology	National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Consultation	BLM recommended a No Historic Properties Affected determination based on a Class III survey (U-12-MQ-1024bps) and asked for concurrence on all of the actions listed in this EA. Concurrence was received 11 April 2013 and documentation of this can be found in the individual well/APD files.
Eastern Shoshone Tribe, Northwest Band Shoshone Tribe, Ute Indian Tribe, Goshute Indian Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Southern Ute Tribe, White Mesa Ute Tribe, Laguna Pueblo Tribe, Santa Clara Pueblo Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Zia Pueblo Tribe and Navajo Nation	National Historic Preservation Act	Tribal consultation for this area was done during preparation of the Ouray Valley 3-D Seismic CX (2010). No concerns were raised at that time.

**5.1. List of Preparers:**

See Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Record Checklist (Appendix B).

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## **Chapter 6. References**

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Braun, C.E. 1998. Sage-grouse declines in western North America: what are the problems? Proceedings of the Western Association of State Fish and Wildlife Agencies. 78:139-156.

Heath, B., R. Straw, S. Anderson, and J. Lawson. 1996. Proceedings of the Greater Sage-grouse Workshop. Pinedale, WY.

Nature Serve. 2014a. <http://www.natureserve.org>. Greater Sage-grouse. Nature Serve Explorer. Web accessed 13 March 2014.

UDWR. 2014a. <Http://dwrcdc.nr.utah.gov/ucdc>. . Conservation Data Center. Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. Web accessed 13 March 2014.

UDWR. 2014b. (B.Maxfield (Sensitive Species Biologist), emails, May. 2014).

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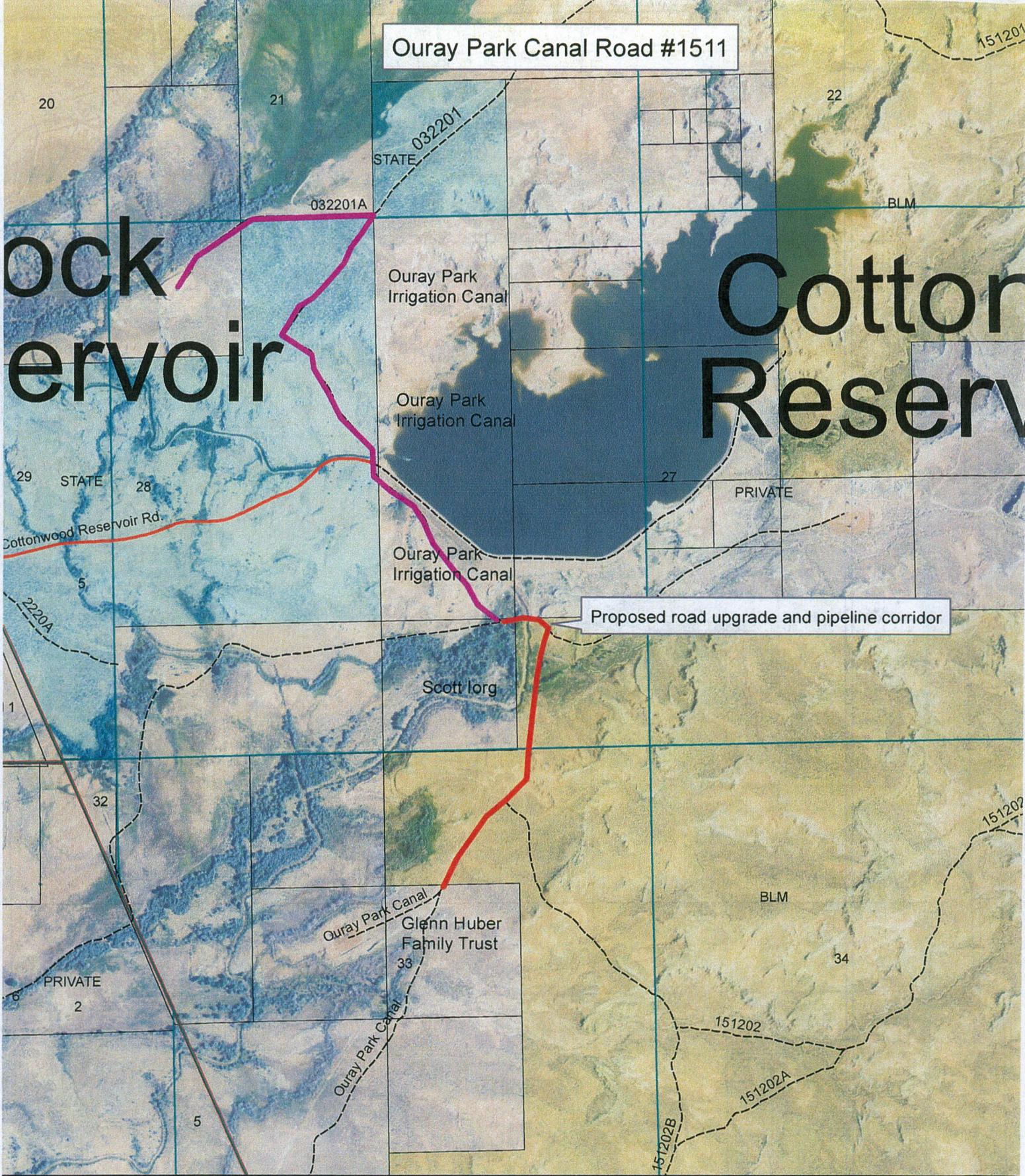
# Appendix A. Map

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Ouray Park Canal Road #1511

Rock  
Reservoir

Cotton  
Reservoir



Proposed road upgrade and pipeline corridor

Disclaimer: This map does not represent a legal document. It is intended to serve as an aid in graphic representation only. No warranty is made by Uintah County for use of any of the data for purposes not intended by Uintah County.



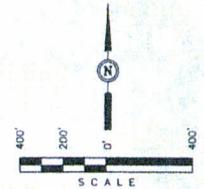
PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY ON FEE LANDS

(For FD #14-21D-5-19)

LOCATED IN SECTIONS 21, 28 & 33, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M., UTAH COUNTY, UTAH

BASIS OF BEARINGS

BASIS OF BEARINGS IS A G.P.S. OBSERVATION.



PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY DESCRIPTION ON GLEN J. HUBER FAMILY LIVING TRUST LANDS

A 30' WIDE RIGHT-OF-WAY 15' ON EACH SIDE OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED CENTERLINE.

BEGINNING AT A POINT IN THE SE 1/4 SW 1/4 OF SECTION 21, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. WHICH BEARS N18°55'10"W 585.11' FROM THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 21, THENCE S84°31'50"E 148.47', THENCE N84°15'27"E 39.98' TO A POINT ON THE EAST LINE OF THE SE 1/4 SW 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 21, WHICH BEARS N00°27'18"W 552.73' FROM THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 21, ALSO BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NW 1/4 NE 1/4 OF SECTION 33, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. WHICH BEARS N57°38'50"W 2471.17' FROM THE EAST 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 33, THENCE S38°44'25"W 152.15' TO A POINT IN THE SW 1/4 NE 1/4 WHICH BEARS N81°03'30"W 2492.10' FROM THE EAST 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 33, THE SIDE LINES OF SAID DESCRIBED RIGHT-OF-WAY BEING SHORTENED OR ELONGATED TO MEET THE GRANTOR'S PROPERTY LINES. BASIS OF BEARINGS IS A G.P.S. OBSERVATION. CONTAINS 0.235 ACRES MORE OR LESS.

PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY DESCRIPTION ON OURAY PARK IRRIGATION COMPANY LANDS

A 30' WIDE RIGHT-OF-WAY 15' ON EACH SIDE OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED CENTERLINE.

BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE NORTH LINE OF THE NW 1/4 NE 1/4 OF SECTION 28, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. WHICH BEARS S89°33'11"E 20.36' FROM THE NORTH 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 28, THENCE S00°33'20"E 52.23', THENCE S37°28'14"W 33.98' TO A POINT ON THE WEST LINE OF THE NW 1/4 NE 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 28, WHICH BEARS S00°01'53"W 79.17' FROM THE NORTH 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 28, ALSO BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE WEST LINE OF THE NW 1/4 SE 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 28, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. WHICH BEARS S45°06'52"E 3738.78' FROM THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 28, THENCE S58°23'35"E 108.67', THENCE S35°42'13"E 540.90', THENCE S39°48'11"E 163.06', THENCE S29°26'43"E 105.59', THENCE S42°50'40"E 360.78', THENCE S28°58'21"E 158.16', THENCE S32°33'47"E 141.23', THENCE S05°56'34"E 205.04' TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NW 1/4 SE 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 28, WHICH BEARS N48°32'01"W 1892.57' FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 28, THE SIDE LINES OF SAID DESCRIBED RIGHT-OF-WAY BEING SHORTENED OR ELONGATED TO MEET THE GRANTOR'S PROPERTY LINES. BASIS OF BEARINGS IS A G.P.S. OBSERVATION. CONTAINS 1.228 ACRES MORE OR LESS.

PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY DESCRIPTION ON BARTON & KALYNN LLOYD LANDS

A 30' WIDE RIGHT-OF-WAY 15' ON EACH SIDE OF THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED CENTERLINE.

BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE NORTH LINE OF THE SW 1/4 SE 1/4 OF SECTION 28, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. WHICH BEARS N48°32'01"W 1992.57' FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 28, THENCE S85°59'34"E 188.60' TO A POINT ON THE WEST LINE OF THE SW 1/4 SE 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 28, WHICH BEARS N46°44'44"W 1813.54' FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 28, THE SIDE LINES OF SAID DESCRIBED RIGHT-OF-WAY BEING SHORTENED OR ELONGATED TO MEET THE GRANTOR'S PROPERTY LINES. BASIS OF BEARINGS IS A G.P.S. OBSERVATION. CONTAINS 0.130 ACRES MORE OR LESS.



CERTIFICATE THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE PLAT WAS PREPARED FROM FIELD NOTES OF ACTUAL SURVEY MADE BY ME UNDER MY SUPERVISION AND THAT THE SAME ARE TRUE & CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.

UNTAH ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING 85 SOUTH - 200 EAST - (438) 788-1017 VERNAL, UTAH - 84078 SCALE: 1" = 400' DATE: 10-26-12 PART: C.R. A.S. R.L.L. REFERENCES: G.L.O. PLAT FILE: 3 2 8 6 5 WEATHER: WARM

▲ = SECTION CORNERS LOCATED.

GLEN J. HUBER FAMILY LIVING TRUST

STATE/PROTECTIVE WITHDRAWAL

OURAY PARK IRRIGATION COMPANY

OURAY PARK IRRIGATION COMPANY

OURAY PARK IRRIGATION COMPANY

BARTON & KALYNN LLOYD

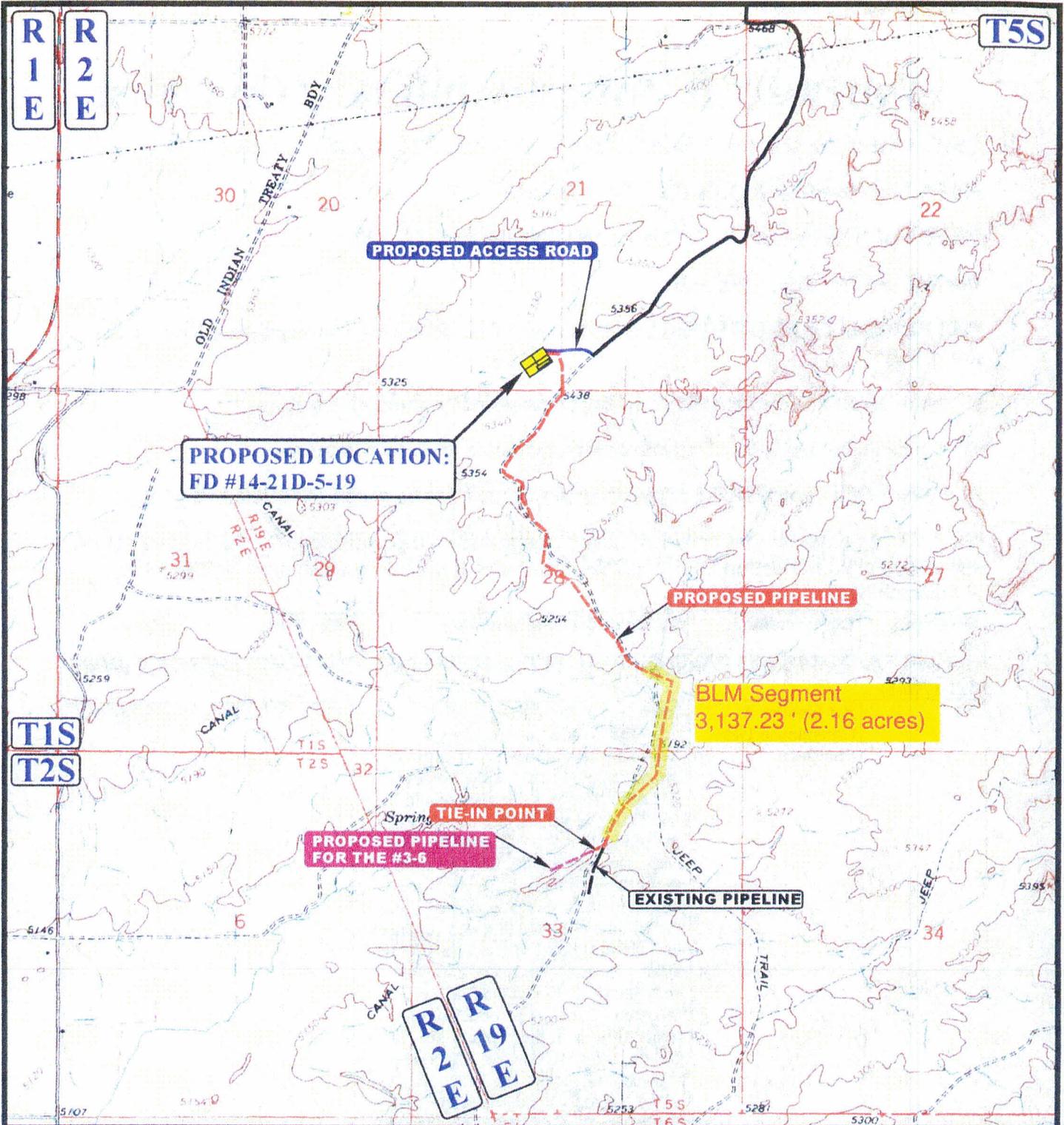
BLM Segment 3 (37.22 (3.16 acres))

GLEN J. HUBER FAMILY LIVING TRUST

BEGINNING OF PIPELINE STA. 0+00 BEARS N18°55'10"W 585.11' FROM THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 21, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. P.O.P.L. 1+89.45 BEARS N00°27'18"W 552.73' FROM THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 21, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. P.O.S.L. 7+63.77 BEARS S89°33'11"E 20.36' FROM THE NORTH 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 28, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. P.O.P.L. 8+49.97 BEARS S00°01'53"W 79.17' FROM THE NORTH 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 28, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. P.O.P.L. 42+02.42 BEARS S45°06'52"E 3738.79' FROM THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 28, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. P.O.P.L. 59+86.11 BEARS N48°32'01"W 1892.57' FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 28, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. P.O.P.L. 61+74.71 BEARS N46°44'44"W 1813.54' FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 28, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. P.O.S.L. 76+50.39 BEARS S89°52'47"W 1171.00' FROM THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SECTION 28, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. P.O.P.L. 93+11.84 BEARS N57°38'50"W 2471.17' FROM THE EAST 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 33, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M. END OF PIPELINE STA. 94+64.09 BEARS N81°03'30"W 2492.10' FROM THE EAST 1/4 CORNER OF SECTION 33, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M.

Table with 4 columns: LINE, DIRECTION, LENGTH, and LINE TABLE. It lists various survey points and bearings for the pipeline right-of-way.

RIGHT-OF-WAY LENGTHS table with columns: PROPERTY OWNER, FEET, ACRES, RODS. It summarizes the total lengths for each owner.



**APPROXIMATE TOTAL PIPELINE DISTANCE = 9,464' +/-**

**LEGEND:**

- PROPOSED ACCESS ROAD
- EXISTING PIPELINE
- PROPOSED PIPELINE
- PROPOSED PIPELINE (SERVICING OTHER WELLS)

**BILL BARRETT CORPORATION**

**FD #14-21D-5-19**  
**SECTION 21, T5S, R19E, S.L.B.&M.**  
**410' FSL 2298' FWL**

**U E I S** **Uintah Engineering & Land Surveying**  
 85 South 200 East Vernal, Utah 84078  
 (435) 789-1017 \* FAX (435) 789-1813



**TOPOGRAPHIC MAP** **10 26 12**  
 MONTH DAY YEAR  
 SCALE: 1" = 2000' DRAWN BY: C.I. REV: 08-02-13 S.O.



# Appendix B. Interdisciplinary Checklist

**Project Title:** Access Roads and Pipelines for Bill Barrett Corporation’s FD 14–21D-5–19

**NEPA Log Number:** DOI-BLM-UT-G010–2014–0106–EA

**File/Serial Number:** UTU-69125–95, UTU-90049, and UTU-90050

**Project Leader:** Katie White Bull

**DETERMINATION OF STAFF:** (Choose one of the following abbreviated options for the left column)

NP = not present in the area impacted by the proposed or alternative actions

NI = present, but not affected to a degree that detailed analysis is required

PI = present with potential for relevant impact that need to be analyzed in detail in the EA

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents cited in Section D of the DNA form. The Rationale column may include NI and NP discussions.

Determina- tion	Resource/Issue	Rationale for Determination	Signature	Date
<b>RESOURCES AND ISSUES CONSIDERED (INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORITIES APPENDIX 1 H-1790-1)</b>				
NI	Air Quality & Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Increased traffic during drilling activities would be temporary. Minimum quantities of dust emissions are anticipated because the volume of traffic from this proposal would be less than one vehicle per day during the production life of the wells. The anticipated air quality impacts from the drilling of these three wells are minimal, and are encompassed within the air quality model that was conducted in 2006 in support of the Vernal RMP effort. No exceedances of national ambient air quality standards were modeled. Ozone was modeled on a regional basis in the Uinta Basin Air Quality Study (UBAQS). The model showed isolated modeled exceedances of the NAAQS standards in the 2012 projection. These isolated exceedances are thought to be remnants from the use of Wasatch Front monitoring data to support the model (currently no monitoring data exists for the Uinta Basin). In addition, the West Tavaputs proposed action, which includes approximately 800 wells, was estimated to result in a potential ozone increase of only 0.44 ppb. Therefore, although ozone formation from its component	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014

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		parts (NOx and VOCs) is a non-linear, photo-reactive process, it is anticipated that the incremental change from this proposed action would be so small as to be undetectable by both models and monitors. No standards have been set by EPA or other regulatory agencies for greenhouse gases. In addition, the assessment of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change is still in its earliest stages of formulation. Global scientific models are inconsistent, and regional or local scientific models are lacking so that it is not technically feasible to determine the net impacts to climate due to greenhouse gas emissions. It is anticipated that greenhouse gas emissions associated with this action and its alternative(s) would be negligible.		
NP	BLM Natural Areas	None are present in the project area per the Vernal Field Office RMP and GIS review.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014
NI	Cultural: Archaeological Resources	Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.16(y) this project is considered to be an undertaking. The area of potential effect (APE) is defined as the polygon presented in the application to drill (APD). MOAC conducted a 100% pedestrian inventory of the project area. No cultural material was identified within the project area. A consultation letter was sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) on April 4, 2013 recommending a "no historic properties affected" determination. We received their concurrence to our determination on April 11, 2013.	Erin Goslin	6/4/2014
NI	Cultural: Native American Religious Concerns	No Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) are identified with the APE. The proposed project will not hinder access to or use of Native American religious sites.	Erin Goslin	6/4/2014
NP	Designated Areas: Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	None are present in the project area per the Vernal Field Office RMP and GIS review.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014
NP	Designated Areas: Wild and Scenic Rivers	None are present in the project area per the Vernal Field Office RMP and GIS review.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014
NP	Designated Areas: Wilderness Study Areas	None are present in the project area per the Vernal Field Office RMP and GIS review.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014

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NI	Environmental Justice	No minority or economically disadvantaged communities or populations would be disproportionately adversely affected by the proposed action or alternatives.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014
NI	Farmlands (Prime or Unique)	All prime farmlands must be irrigated to be considered under this designation, among other factors. No prime or unique farmlands, as identified by the NRCS, based on soil survey data for the county are located in the project area; therefore, this resource will not be carried forward for analysis.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014
NI	Fuels/Fire Management	There are no planned fuels projects in the immediate area. Disturbance in this vegetation type could increase the amount of invasive plants, specifically Bromus tectorum. The increase of Bromus tectorum could lead to a change of ecosystem dynamics and an increase in fire frequency. Applying the Green River District Reclamation Guidelines should prevent additional hazardous fuels.	Blaine Tarbell	3/26/2014
NI	Geology/Minerals/ Energy Production	No adverse impact to geology, mineral resources, or energy production is expected in the project area as per the 2008 Vernal Field Office Resource Management Plan, the 2002 Vernal Planning Area Mineral Potential Report, and GIS review.	Justin Snyder	4/07/2014
IP/NW: PI Soils: PI Veg: PI	Invasive Plants/ Noxious Weeds, Soils & Vegetation	<p>IP/NW: Proposed disturbance would provide suitable habitat for the establishment and spread of non-native plant species. Operator would control invasive species in all disturbed areas as discussed in Chapter 2 and the approved reclamation plan.</p> <p>Soils: The proposed project takes place in areas identified as having a high content of loam and sandy loam soils. The project proposes to disturb approximately 2.2 acres of these soils which are very prone to erosion through fluvial and eolian processes. These potential impacts have the chance to add significant amounts of new sediment into the system as a whole unless certain reclamation and storm water erosion controls methods are in place could result in significant cumulative impacts. A site specific reclamation plan would be required on the wells proposed in the proposed action.</p>	<p>IP/NW; Veg: Jessi Brunson</p> <p>Soils: Christine Cimiluca</p>	<p>IP/NW: 5/22/2014</p> <p>Soils: 6/3/2014</p> <p>Veg: 5/22/2014</p>

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		Veg: The project will disturb approximately 2.2 acres of native vegetation.		
NI	Lands/Access	The proposed area is located within the Vernal Field Office Resource Management Plan area which allows for oil and gas development with associated road and pipeline right-of-ways. Road, power line and pipeline right-of-ways will be required for the project, prior to construction. No existing land uses would be changed or modified by the implementation of the proposed action; therefore there would be no adverse effect.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014
NP	Lands with Wilderness Characteristics (LWC)	None are present in the project area per the Vernal Field Office RMP and GIS review.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014
NI	Livestock Grazing & Rangeland Health Standards	Livestock Grazing: The proposed project is located within the West Huber cattle grazing allotment. The allotment is seasonally permitted from October 1 to May 1 with up to 396 AUMs. This area has a few existing well sites and the newly proposed road expansion will have very little effect on the livestock grazing. Very little disturbance would occur other than increasing the traffic on the already existing road. The proposal is consistent with multiple use of public lands and other oil & gas activities in the area. It is not anticipated that this proposal would negatively impact grazing operations. There are no known range improvements in this allotment that would be impacted by this proposal. This proposal is not expected to affect Rangeland Health Standards in this allotment.	Craig Newman	4/1/2014
PI	Paleontology	No fossils were found on surface. Because there will be substantial impact to bedrock during the construction, it is recommended that a paleontology monitor spot check any bedrock disturbance during construction (Uinta Paleo, March 26, 2013)	Elizabeth Gamber	3/26/2014

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NI	Plants:  BLM Sensitive	The following UT BLM sensitive plant species are present or expected in the same or an adjacent subwatershed as the proposed project: Hamilton's milkvetch ( <i>Astragalus hamiltonii</i> ), Goodrich's penstemon ( <i>Penstemon goodrichii</i> ), and sterile yucca ( <i>Yucca sterilis</i> ). The project area plus a 300-foot boundary was surveyed in May 2014 and no individuals or populations of these species were found.	Jessi Brunson	5/22/2014
PI	Plants:  Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, or Candidate	The following federally listed, proposed, or candidate plant species are present in the same or an adjacent subwatershed as the proposed project: Ute ladies'-tresses ( <i>Spiranthes diluvialis</i> ), Uinta Basin hookless cactus ( <i>Sclerocactus wetlandicus</i> ), and Pariette cactus ( <i>Sclerocactus brevispinus</i> ) habitat. Habitat for Uinta Basin hookless cactus and Pariette cactus do not occur near the project area. Habitat for Ute ladies'-tresses within the project area was surveyed in August 2013, but no Ute ladies'-tresses were located.	Jessi Brunson	5/22/2014
NP	Plants:  Wetland/Riparian	There are no riparian or wetland areas within the proposed Project Area as per GIS review. The nearest mapped riparian area (Ft. Duchesne) is located approximately 4.2 miles to the east of the Project Area, and it should not be impacted by the Proposed Action. Aerial photography review of the existing Ouray Park Canal Road shows that it is unlikely that unmapped wetlands/riparian areas are present in the Project Area. Operator has agreed to reduce impacts down gradient by controlling erosion onsite and reducing long term impacts through reclamation and monitoring. With these operator-committed measures in effect, wetlands/riparian areas are not expected to be impacted as a result of the Proposed Action.	Christine Cimiluca	3/25/2014

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NI	Recreation	No developed recreation sites/trails or Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs) exist within the project area. Limited recreational use in the area. Considered part of the Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA), where limited recreation management takes place.  Recreational use of off highway vehicles (OHVs) is restricted to existing roads and trails.	Dan Gilfillan	4/3/2014
NI	Socio-Economics	This project is similar, though much smaller in scope, to other oil and gas development projects in the area. Due to its small size, the proposed action and no action alternatives would not measurably impact the social programs or economics of the Uinta Basin and its counties.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014
NI	Visual Resources	The proposed project is in a VRM Class IV area, per the Vernal Field Office GIS Data Base & RMP/ROD. Class IV objective states: The objective of this class is to provide for management activities which require major modifications of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance, and repeating the basic elements. The proposal will follow existing form, line and texture in the landscape, but will contrast in color temporarily with the landscape. The contrast in color, form, line and texture is within the class IV objectives.	Dan Gilfillan	4/3/2014
NI	Wastes (hazardous/solid)	No chemicals subject to reporting under SARA Title III in amounts greater than 10,000 pounds would be used, produced, stored, transported, or disposed of annually in association with the project. Trash and other waste materials would be cleaned up and removed immediately after completion of operations.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014
NP	Water: Floodplains	None are present in the project area per the Vernal Field Office RMP and GIS review.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014

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NI	Water: Groundwater Quality	The access road and pipeline will not adversely impact groundwater. since groundwater is likely present at over 100 ft below ground surface.	Elizabeth Gamber	3/26/2014
NI	Water: Hydrologic Conditions (stormwater)	The Project Area is located within the boundaries of the Duchesne Utah, Unita River, and the Bottle Hollow-Uinta River Hydrologic Units. Hydrologic conditions within the Project Area consist primarily of dry ephemeral drainages within a sandy loam soil environment. The proposed action as stated is not expected to alter current hydrological conditions. Storm water controls within the site specific reclamation would address mitigation intended to protect current hydrologic conditions.	Christine Cimiluca	3/25/2014
NI	Water: Surface Water Quality	The Project Area has been identified as having several ephemeral drainages that are subject to periodic fluctuations in surface runoff. Alterations in surface water quality could result due to the Proposed Action. However, mitigation measures and best management practices would minimize any potential impacts.	Christine Cimiluca	3/25/2014
NP	Water: Waters of the U.S.	No Waters of the U.S. are present in the Project Area, as per BLM GIS data review, and no Waters of the U.S. are expected to be impacted as a result of the Proposed Action..	Christine Cimiluca	3/25/2014
NP	Wild Horses	No herd areas or herd management areas are present in the project area per BLM GIS database.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014
NI	Wildlife: Migratory Birds (including raptors)	There are no known raptor nests within 1 mile of the proposed project area. The project area is adjacent to an existing road where migratory birds may be present during foraging periods; however, nesting is not anticipated next to the road (project area). Impacts to migratory birds is not from associated project activities are not expected to disturb nuptial or nesting behavior such that analysis is needed.	Brandon McDonald	5/16/2014
NI	Wildlife: Non-USFWS Designated	General wildlife may be found within the area; however, the BLM does not identify crucial habitat for any species within or near the project area.	Brandon McDonald	5/16/2014

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PI	Wildlife:  Threatened, Endangered, Proposed or Candidate	The proposed project is located within BLM identified Preliminary Priority Habitat for greater sage-grouse. The proposed project will conform with WO IM 2012-043.	Brandon McDonald	5/16/2014
NP	Woodlands/Forestry	None are present in the project area per the Vernal Field Office RMP and GIS review.	Katie White Bull	3/24/2014

**FINAL REVIEW:**

Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
Environmental Coordinator	<i>Kelly Buckner</i>	06-25-2014	
Authorized Officer	<i>[Signature]</i>	6-26-2014	